

4.

~~5.~~ (Amended) The drum shell of claim 1, wherein reinforcing structure is provided in each channel, the reinforcing structure including a bore therethrough associated with each channel for receiving a drum tensioning member.

A2 [Substitute the following claim 6 for claim 6 as filed.]

5.

~~6.~~ (Amended) The drum shell of claim ~~5~~<sup>4</sup>, wherein the reinforcing structure is an annular member mounted to the body between the opposing ends.

Substitute the following claim 8 for claim 8 as filed.

7.

A3 ~~8.~~ (Amended) The drum shell of claim 1, further comprising a rigid inner sleeve disposed within the hollow body so as to define a cavity between the inner sleeve and the body.

Substitute the following claim 11 for claim 11 as filed.

10.

A4 ~~11.~~ (Amended) A drum comprising:

a rigid, hollow body having first and second opposing opened ends of generally circular form, the body having an inner surface and an outer surface, the outer surface being of convoluted form defined by a plurality of channels formed in the body, the channels extending toward said ends,

a drum head membrane covering each of the first and second ends,

a ring mounted on each of the first and second ends so as to secure each drum head membrane to the body, each ring including a tensioning member receiving structure, and

a plurality of tensioning members, a tensioning member being received in an associated channel and a first end of each tensioning member being received by the tensioning member receiving structure of each ring, said tensioning members being

Q4  
con'd. constructed and arranged to be moved with respect to the body to adjust tension of the drum head membranes.

✓ Substitute the following claim 15 for claim 15 as filed.

Q5 14. 13  
15. (Amended) The drum of claim 14, wherein the reinforcing structure is an annular member mounted to the body substantially midway between the opposing ends.

✓ Substitute the following claim 19 for claim 19 as filed.

Q6 18. 10  
19. (Amended) The drum of claim 11, further comprising a rigid inner sleeve disposed within the hollow body so as to define a cavity between the inner sleeve and the body.

✓ Substitute the following claim 29 for claim 29 as filed.

Q7 28. 26  
29. (Amended) The drum of claim 27, wherein reinforcing structure is provided in each channel, the reinforcing structure being in the form of an annular member mounted to the body substantially midway between the opposing ends, the annular member including internal threads associated with each channel for receiving a threaded end of an associated tensioning member, movement of the tensioning member with respect to the internal threads causing changes in the fluid pressure.

### REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 11, 15, 19 and 29 have been amended. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Thus, claims 1 and 3-33 are pending.

With regard to the telephonic interview of August 6, 2002, the Examiner initiated the interview and indicated that claim 1 was rejected based on the Sapp patent. The Examiner then began proposing some changes to the claims. Since the undersigned attorney did not have a copy of the Sapp reference, the undersigned asked that an